

The Chair, Lloyd Sullivan at 7:00pm called the regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting to order. Those present included Jenifer Landman (Selectman) and Russell McAllister (Town Administrator).

Questions & Comments

Mr. Sullivan announced that several area State Representatives were on hand to discuss why they voted for the statewide property tax issue. That discussion would take place after Michael Morrison's update on the Mosquito Control Program.

Municipal Pest Management - 7:15pm

Michael Morrison – Mosquito Control Program update

Mr. Morrison noted that a good amount of mapping of those areas in Town that provided habitat for the *Culex Pipiens* had been completed. A map was passed around that denoted which areas had been mapped. Mr. Morrison noted that during the last three years the amount of available freshwater in the form of rain had been low. Low rainfall amounts had the general effect of limiting the number of mosquito hatches. A dead crow infected with West Nile Virus (WNV) had been found in the Dover area. There also had been positive identification of mosquitoes that were carrying the virus. Mr. Morrison reported that North Hampton had few catch basins, which provided a favorable habitat for *culex pipiens*. The permit for North Hampton included an emergency response measure that would allow spraying (adulticiding) if an infected crow were found in Town. It was noted that WNV posed a small health risk to healthy individuals. WNV posed the greatest health threat to those individuals with compromised, or weak immune systems. Eastern Equine Encephalitis is a mosquito borne virus that has been present in New England for a long time and it poses a greater health risk than that of WNV. A member of the audience asked about Rye's adulticiding program. Mr. Morrison explained that much of the Town of Rye, with the exception of the roads, was underwater. This situation necessitated a different approach to mosquito control.

Statewide Property Tax - 7:30pm

Representatives Rogers Johnson & Jeff Gilbert Address the Issue

Mr. Joe Arena addressed those in the audience about the issue of the statewide property tax issue. Mr. Arena spoke about secession and read aloud Article 10 of the New Hampshire State Constitution that addressed the issue of secession. Mr. Arena noted that the statewide property tax was a socialistic policy that was enslaving the population. Representative Rogers Johnson spoke to those assembled and introduced fellow Representatives Jeff Gilbert and Walt Ruffner. Mr. Johnson provided a brief synopsis of the last legislative session that led to adoption of the statewide property tax. Mr. Johnson noted that the choice between an income tax HB 766 (which also had a component of the statewide property tax), and the statewide property tax itself HB 170 were the only alternatives left to vote on. Mr. Johnson explained that the statewide property tax bill was the only bill that provided the necessary funding and that is the reason that he and his colleagues voted on it. Other discussion concerned the role of the New Hampshire Supreme Court on the issue. Many voiced their feeling that the court should not be part of the process. Several questions regarding progressive versus regressive tax policy were raised with Representative Gilbert answering that the property tax was a progressive tax.

Selectmen Issues

Update of Route 1 Sewer Study

Mr. Sullivan noted that he wanted to remove the topic from the agenda. Mr. Allen Hines noted that his work on the 1989 Master Plan and subsequent Master Plan of 1999 made no mention of a sewer system in Town. Mr. Sullivan noted that the proposed update of the feasibility study was to review current conditions along Route 1.

Selectman Vacancy

Ms. Landman queried Mr. Sullivan about scheduling another meeting to discuss filling the vacant Selectman's position. It was agreed that discussions regarding potential candidates to fill the vacancy would continue on Tuesday (9/25) at 1:00pm in the Mary Herbert Room.

Administration/Business

Ms. Landman made the motion to approve the meeting minutes of August 13th. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

The selectmen reviewed correspondence and/or signed:

- a. Minutes - August 27th & September 5th 2001
- b. Payroll
- c. Manifest
- d. Elderly Exemption – Esther Seavey
- e. Veterans Exemption – Edmund Huntress
- f. Appointments – Mark Johnson / Chris Ganotis (signatures required)
- g. Coakley Minutes
- h. Coakley – Institutional Control Program

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board Mr. Sullivan made the motion to adjourn. Ms. Landman seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30pm. Ms. Landman made the motion to convene in Non-Public Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Sullivan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Respectfully,

Russell McAllister
Town Administrator